

CLAIMS

1. A method of playing a modified blackjack card game comprising:

providing at least one set of playing cards, each card in the set of the playing cards having a specific numeric value;

placing a wager by at least one player;

dealing an initial hand of cards to the player and the dealer, the player's cards being face up and at least one of the dealer's cards being face down;

declaring the player's hand either as a poker hand or a modified blackjack hand by the player;

dealing additional cards to the player to enable the player to form a complete poker hand if the player declares his or her hand as a poker hand;

awarding winnings to the player based on the wager and a first payout schedule if the poker hand represented by the player's cards matches any one of a plurality of predetermined poker hands;

1
2 requiring the player to forfeit his or wager and withdraw from
3 play if the player fails to achieve a winning poker hand;
4
5 determining if the total numeric value of the player's initial
6 hand equals a first predetermined number if the player
7 declares his or her initial hand as a modified blackjack hand;
8
9 determining if the total numeric value of the dealer's initial
10 hand equals the first predetermined number;
11
12 paying winnings to the player based on the wager and a second
13 payout schedule if the total numeric value of the player's
14 initial hand equals the first predetermined number and the
15 total numeric value of the dealer's initial hand is not equal
16 to the first predetermined number;
17
18 dealing additional cards to the player upon the player's request;
19
20 requiring the player to forfeit his or her wager and withdraw
21 from play if the total numeric value of the player's hand
22 exceeds the first predetermined number;
23
24 dealing additional cards to the dealer as long as the total

1 numeric value of the dealer's hand is less than a second
2 predetermined number which is less than the first
3 predetermined number and requiring the dealer to hold as soon
4 as the total numeric value of the dealer's hand is equal to or
5 exceeds the second predetermined number; and

6
7 paying winnings to the player based on the wager and the second
8 payout schedule if the player has a winning hand.

9
10 2. The method according to claim 1 further comprising:

11
12 providing the winner of the modified blackjack card game with an
13 opportunity to play in subsequent card game with the dealer;

14
15 requiring the player to place a wager that is equal to either
16 half the amount of the winnings paid to the player or the full
17 amount of the winnings paid to the player if the player
18 assents to playing the dealer in the subsequent card game; and

19
20 playing the subsequent card game.

21
22 3. The method according to claim 1 wherein the first
23 predetermined number is chosen from 31, 41 and 51.

1 4. The method according to claim 1 wherein the first
2 predetermined number is 31 and the second predetermined number is
3 25.

4
5 5. The method according to claim 1 wherein the predetermined
6 poker hand is chosen from a pair, two pair, three of a kind,
7 straight, flush, full house, four of a kind, five of a kind,
8 straight flush and royal flush.

9
10 6. The method according to claim 1 wherein the cards dealt to
11 the player and the dealer in the initial deal consist of three
12 cards.

13
14 7. The method according to claim 1 wherein the cards dealt to
15 the player and the dealer in the initial deal consist of four
16 cards.

17
18 8. The method according to claim 1 wherein the cards dealt to
19 the player and the dealer in the initial deal consist of five
20 cards.

21
22 9. The method according to claim 1 wherein the at least one set
23 of playing cards includes at least one Joker card.

1 10. A method of playing a modified blackjack card game
2 comprising:

3
4 dealing an initial hand of cards to at least one player and a
5 dealer;

6
7 declaring the initial hand as a poker hand or a modified
8 blackjack hand by the player;

9
10 playing the initial hand as a poker hand if the player
11 declares the initial hand as a poker hand;

12
13 awarding winnings to the player if the player acquires a poker
14 hand that matches one of a predetermined plurality of poker
15 hands;

16
17 playing the initial hand as a modified blackjack hand if the
18 player declares the initial hand as a modified blackjack
19 hand; and

20
21 awarding winnings to the player if the player acquires a
22 winning hand.

23
24 11. The method according to claim 10 further comprising:

1
2 providing the player the option of playing the dealer in a
3 second type of card game;

4
5 requiring the player to wager either all of his or her
6 winnings or half of his or her winnings; and

7
8 playing the second type of card game.

9
10 12. A method of playing a card game comprising:

11
12 providing playing cards for playing a first card game;

13
14 placing a wager by the player;

15
16 dealing cards to the player and a dealer and playing the first
17 card game;

18
19 requiring the player to forfeit the wager and withdraw from play
20 if the player loses the first card game;

21
22 paying winnings to the player if the player wins the first card
23 game;

1 providing the player with an opportunity to play in a second card
2 game with the dealer if the player wins the first card game;
3
4 requiring the winning player to place a wager that is either half
5 the amount of winnings paid to the player for winning the
6 first card game or the full amount of winnings paid to the
7 player for winning the first card game if the player assents
8 to playing the dealer in the second card game; and
9
10 playing the second card game.

11
12 13. The method according to claim 18 wherein the first card
13 game is modified black jack.

14
15 14. The method according to claim 19 wherein the second card
16 game is high-low.